

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 L-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 CU-02 SCCT-01 /078 W

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R 050400Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1633

INFO UN MISSION GENEVA 387

USUN MISSION NEW YORK 487

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1405

DEPARTMENT PASS TO AID WASHINGTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PINT, PORG, AF, UN

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: A) STATE 12320 B) STATE 14917 C) KABUL 2407 DATED 1974  
D) KABUL 805

1. WE HAVE READ CAREFULLY STATE 12320, THE PROVISIONS OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACTS CITED IN STATE 14917, AND THE BACKGROUND MATERIALS PROVIDED IN A-1045. WE BELIEVE THAT MISSION ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF KABUL 2407 (1974) REMAIN VALID.

2. AS SET OUT IN KABUL 2407, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) DOES ACT STRONGLY AND SUMMARILY IN THE TREATMENT OF THOSE IT PERCEIVES AS THREAT TO STATE SECURITY. IN SO DOING, IT REFLECTS TRADITIONS AND CULTURAL PATTERNS WHICH TO WESTERN EYES, CAN SEEM AS HARSH AS THE AFGHAN TERRAIN ITSELF. SUCH ACTIONS, WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT ONLY BE JUDGED WITHIN CULTURAL CONTEXT WHERE TRIBAL TIES FOR MANY OUTWEIGH LESS IMMEDIATE NOTIONS OF NATIONAL LOYALTY WHERE BLOOD FEUD STILL A COMMON PHENOMENON, BUT ALSO  
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JUDGED AGAINST GOA COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL BEING OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE.

3. MAIN INCIDENT IN LAST ELEVEN MONTHS (OR, THAT IS, SINCE 2407 SENT ON APRIL 22, 1974) INVOLVING LARGE SCALE ARRESTS OCCURRED IN JUNE-JULY 1974. IN MID-JUNE GOA ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED NUMBER OF MILITARY OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS WHOM GOVERNMENT PERCEIVED AS CONSPIRATORS IN COUNTER-COUP PLANNED FOR LATE JUNE (KABUL 3928, 4183, 1974). NO RELIABLE FIGURE ON NUMBER OF DETAINEES AVAILABLE BUT SOME ESTIMATES PUT NUMBER IN HUNDREDS. GOA ANNOUNCED IN MID-AUGUST THAT 13 PERSONS "CAUGHT RED HANDED COMMITTING TERRORISM AND ESPIONAGE" HAD BEEN SENTENCED. ONE WAS EXECUTED ONE FREED, OTHERS WERE GIVEN VARYING PRISON SENTENCES (KABUL 5317, 1974). WHILE OTHERS MAY HAVE BEEN QUIETLY RELEASED, RUMOR HAS IT THAT MILITARY TRIBUNAL IS PRESENTLY OTHERS SUPPOSELY INVOLVED IN THIS ALLEGED COUNTER-COUP PLOT.

4. GOA HAS NOT YET PROMULGATED NEW CONSTITUTION TO REPLACE 1964 CONSTITUTION ABROGATED AFTER JULY 1973 COUP THROUGH RUMOR PERSISTS THAT IT IS FORTHCOMING. IT SHOULD BE NOTED HOWEVER THAT EXISTENCE OF FORMAL CONSTITUTION WOULD NOT, AS PREDECESSOR CONSTITUTIONS DID NOT, SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT IMPRISONMENT, TREATMENT AND TRYING OF THOSE WHOM GOA CONSIDERS THREATS TO STATE SECURITY.

5. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT DENIAL OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ON BASIS OF HUMAN RIGHT PROVISIONS OF FAA WOULD NOT SERVE TO MODERATE GOA TREATMENT OF THOSE IT BELIEVES ENEMIES OF THE STATE BUT WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF GIVING CREDENCE TO VIEW THAT U.S. IS IN LEAGUE WITH THOSE PLOTTING OVERTHROW OF REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT.

6. AID & DAO CONCUR.  
CURRAN

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## Message Attributes

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